

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-39 are pending. The Examiner's allowance of claims 1-26 and 32-36, and his indication that claims 28-31 contain allowable subject matter are gratefully acknowledged. New claims 37-39 are added by this Amendment.

The Applicant has rewritten allowable claim 28 in independent form, thereby making independent claim 28 and dependent claims 29 and 30 allowable.

The Examiner has rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harris, et al. (US 5,787,865) and by Beakley, et al. (US 4,971,017). The Applicant has amended independent claim 27 to further recite the step of deflecting the seal to ensure engagement with the first and second seats. Neither Harris, et al. nor Beakley, et al. teach or suggest the method of amended claim 27. Therefore, independent claim 27 is allowable.

New claims 37-39 have been added to take the place of original dependent claims 28-30 (as dependent claim 28 has been rewritten in independent form). Therefore, dependent claims 31 and 37-39 depend from amended claim 27 and are now allowable.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard L. Kaiser
Reg. No. 46,158

File No. 081276-9138-00
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
(262) 956-6576

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